

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-25

INFO OCT-01 EA-11 NEA-10 IO-12 ADP-00 EURE-00 OIC-04

AID-20 CEA-02 CIAE-00 COME-00 EB-11 FRB-02 INR-10

NSAE-00 RSC-01 OPIC-12 TRSE-00 CIEP-02 LAB-06 SIL-01

OMB-01 SS-15 SCI-06 AGR-20 NSC-10 SSO-00 NSCE-00

INRE-00 INT-08 SCEM-02 L-03 STR-08 RSR-01 /204 W

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O R 261707 Z APR 73

FM USMISSION OECD PARIS

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 9443

INFO AMEMBASSY ANKARA

AMEMBASSY ATHENS

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E. O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: ETRD, OECD

SUBJECT: AGENDA FOR OECD MINISTERIAL COUNCIL MEETING JUNE 6 -8

REF: (A) USOECD 10264 (B) STATE 72126 (C) USOECD 10984

1. SUMMARY: AT RESUMED HEADSDEL DISCUSSION MINISTERIAL COUNCIL AGENDA APRIL 25, CONSENSUS BEGAN TO EMERGE IN FAVOR OF TWO- ITEM AGENDA CONSISTING OF (A) INTERNATIONAL ECONOMIC SITUATION AND (B) ACTIVITIES OF ORGANIZATION INCLUDING SUB ITEMS ON ENERGY. US REP MADE SOME PROGRESS IN MOVING SECGEN AND OTHER DELS IN DIRECTION OF US CONCEPT OF 1973 MINISTERIAL AS LAID OUT REF B. VAN LENNEP EMPHASIZED NEED TO REACH AGREEMENT QUICKLY EMERGENCIES, (2) DESIRABILITY OF FORMULATING A RECOMMENDATION ON OIL STOCKPILING FOR NON- EUROPEAN MEMBERS OF OECD TO COMPLEMENT RECOMMENDATION ALREADY ADOPTED FOR EUROPEAN MEMBERS, (3) COOPERATIVE MEASURES TO ASSURE CONTINUITY OF OIL SUPPLIES, (4) DIVERSIFICATION OF ENERGY SUPPLIES. IN SUM, MINISTERS COULD NOTE SECGEN REPORT ON LONG TERM ENERGY ASSESSMENT, POSSIBLY NOTE OIL COMMITTEE REPORT ON OIL SUPPLY AND DEMAND UP TO 1980 AND ESTABLISH PRIORITIES FOR OECD WORK ON ENERGY IN 1973. IN RESPONSE TO QUESTION ABOUT TYPE OF MEASURES CONTEMPLATED UNDER (3), ABOVE, SECGEN SAID THIS WOULD BE UP TO MINISTERS. MISSION WAS INFORMED BY SECRETARIAT SOURCES THAT THIS HEADING WAS INTRODUCED TO ENCOURAGE MINISTERS TO INDICATE WHICH GENERAL AREAS FOR POSSIBLE COOPERATION THE OECD SHOULD INVESTIGATE ON A PRIORITY BASIS. THOUGH WORKING DOCUMENT FOR HLG OF OIL COMMITTEE ENTITLED, " POSSIBLE AREAS FOR COOPERATION BETWEEN MEMBER COUNTRIES ON OIL QUESTIONS," WOULD NOT BE DISTRIBUTED TO MINISTERS, SECRETARIAT BELIEVES IT COULD BE USEFUL SOURCE MATERIAL FOR THIS PART OF DISCUSSION.

4. MOST DELS WHO SPOKE FAVORED INCLUSION OF ENERGY AS SUB ITEM ON AGENDA, BUT SEVERAL EXPRESSED NEED FOR PRUDENCE IN ADDRESSING SHORT- TERM ASPECTS OF PROBLEM, AND UK RESERVED POSITION FOR TIME BEING. US DEL FAVORED GENERAL BUT SIGNIFICANT DISCUSSION WITH NEED FOR INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION AS FOCUS. HE SUGGESTED THAT IT WAS NOT NECESSARY TO LINK MEETING OF OIL COMMITTEE AND ITS HLG TO MINISTERIAL MEETING, THOUGH DOCUMENTATION FOR MINISTERIAL WOULD BE SOMEWHAT DIFFERENT IF THERE WERE AGREEMENT TO THE POST- PONENT OF OIL MEETINGS REQUESTED BY US.

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5. TURNING TO DEVELOPMENT COOPERATION, VAN LENNEP SAID IT

WOULD BE MISLEADING AND UNWISE FOR MINISTERS TO APPEAR TO IGNORE LDC PROBLEMS. PROGRESS IN THIS FIELD HAD NOT BEEN ENTIRELY SATISFACTORY, AS A BASIS FOR DISCUSSION, SECRETARIAT COULD PREPARE PAPER ON GROWTH RATES AND AID FIGURES, UNEMPLOYMENT, FOOD, AND POVERTY PROBLEMS AND PROSPECTS FOR ODA FOR PRIVATE INVESTMENT FLOWS. MINISTERS COULD EXCHANGE VIEWS ON THESE FUNDAMENTAL QUESTIONS AND EMPHASIZE IMPORTANCE THEY ATTACH TO THEM. MINISTERS MIGHT ALSO REVIEW GROWING PROBLEM ASSOCIATED WITH INCREASES IN EXPORT CREDITS AND COMMERCIAL BORROWING AND CONSEQUENT PROBLEM OF EXCESSIVE LDC DEBT BURDENS. EXPRESSIONS OF MINISTERIAL INTEREST AND CONCERN ABOUT THESE VESING PROBLEMS COULD PRODUCE NEW IMPLUSE AND ORIENTATION IN DEVELOPMENT COOPERATION IN CONTEXT OF DD II. VAN LENNEP THOUGHT THAT MINISTERS MIGHT DEVOTE ONE HALF OF A DAY TO DISCUSSING DEVELOPMENT COOPERATION.

6. DEVERAL DELS INCLUDING CANADA, FRG, GREECE, AND UK, EXPRESSED DOUBT ABOUT INCLUDING DEVELOPMENT COOPERATION AS ITEM OR SUB ITEM ON MINISTERIAL AGENDA. THEY WERE MAINLY CONCERNED THAT MINISTERS COULD CONTRIBUTE LITTLE THAT WAS NEW ON SUBJECT AND MIGHT AROUSE FALSE HOPES AMONG LDCS. OTHER DELS INCLINED TOWARD FRENCH VIEW THAT POLITICAL EXIGENCIES REQUIRED THAT LDC PROBLEMS NOT BE, OR APPEAR TO BE, IGNORED BY OECD MINISTERIAL. QUESTION WAS ONE OF STRIKING RIGHT BALANCE BETWEEN EXPRESSION OF RESPONSIBLE INTEREST AND AVOIDANCE OF CREATION OF FALSE HOPES.

7. MISSION COMMENT: MISSION IS CONSULTING WITH SECRETARIAT AND KEY DELS TO GAIN ACCEPTANCE FOR US APPROACH AS OUTLINED REF B. MISSION WOULD WELCOME SUPPLEMENTARY GUIDANCE OR COMMENTS FOR MINISTERIAL AGENDA, PARTICULARLY WASHINGTON' S VIEWS AS TO MAIN ELEMENTS OF REPORT XCSS CHAIRMAN WOULD MAKE TO MINISTERIAL COUNCIL.

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WITH SPECIAL EMPHASIS ON FIRST PHASE OF REPORT ON OIL SUPPLY AND DEMAND SITUATION UP TO 1980. ASSUMING REPORT ON THIS SUBJECT IS APPROVED BY OIL COMMITTEE AND ITS HLG AT SESSION NOW SCHEDULED FOR MAY 8-10, IT WOULD BE SUBMITTED TO MINISTERS FOR INFORMATION. (B) MINISTERS WOULD THEN HAVE DISCUSSION, BASED ON SECRETARIAT NOTE, DESIGNED TO ESTABLISH PRIORITIES FOR OECD WORK ON ENERGY FOR REMAINDER OF 1973, AND TO GIVE GUIDANCE TO RELEVANT COMMITTEES. SECGEN SAID NOTE MIGHT SUGGEST DISCUSSION BY MINISTERS OF (1) DESIRABILITY OF ACCELERATING WORK ON DEVELOPMENT OF OECD- WIDE OIL APPORTIONMENT SCHEME FOR SUBJECT MATTER IS OF DIRECT INTEREST TO NUMBER OF DEVELOPING COUNTRIES AND, ACCORDINGLY, RECOMMENDS POSITIVE RESPONSE (OLSON HAS PARTICIPATED ACTIVELY IN AGENCY ACTIVITIES FOR SEVERAL YEARS).

6. COPIES OF PERTINENT CORRESPONDENCE AND INFORMATION SHEET

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: n/a
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 26 APR 1973
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: boyleja
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1973OECDP11532
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: n/a
Errors: n/a
Film Number: n/a
From: OECD PARIS
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1973/newtext/t19730453/aaaaiyoz.tel
Line Count: 227
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE
Office: ACTION EUR
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 5
Previous Channel Indicators:
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: boyleja
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 15 AUG 2001
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <15-Aug-2001 by martinml>; APPROVED <10-Sep-2001 by boyleja>
Review Markings:

Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
30 JUN 2005

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: <DBA CORRECTED> srp 980203
Subject: AGENDA FOR
TAGS: ETRD, OECD
To: EUR
SECSTATE WASHDC INFO ANKARA
ATHENS
BONN
MULTIPLE
Type: TE
Markings: Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005

